

**HARLINGEN PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
410 '76 DRIVE  
Harlingen, Texas 78550  
CAPITAL OF THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY

In the Matter of:

Wireline Competition Bureau Seeking Comments on E-rate Category Two ) WC Docket No.  
13-184

To Whom It May Concern:

As the Assistant Library Director at the Harlingen Public Library, I want to let the FCC know that we fully support the consistent funding of the E-Rate Program. The E-Rate program has allowed us to provide WiFi for our community and to make necessary upgrades to our wiring system. We rely on the funding to help us provide our community with the internet access they need.

The poverty rate is high in our county, and many people who use our electronic services depend on the library's connectivity as they search for and apply for jobs, submit government forms to apply for immigration benefits, complete homework assignments, and myriad other tasks that contribute to their education, enrichment, civil engagement, and financial security. Libraries everywhere know WiFi throughout the library is not a "nice to have" – it's a core community service. The public library is working to bridge the digital divide, and it makes an incredible difference in the lives of the people we serve.

With the commitment of the FCC to ensure a library budget of \$2.30 (\$5.00 for a selected category of larger urban and suburban libraries) per square foot, more libraries will be able to upgrade outdated equipment, plan for new construction, and meet the needs of the most vulnerable people impacted by the digital divide.

Please maintain secure funding through the full five-year budget period as adopted during the 2014 Modernization. Our communities depend on it.

Thank you,

Molly Walter  
Assistant Library Director